

The American Observer

A free, virtuous, and enlightened people must know well the great principles and causes on which their happiness depends.—James Monroe

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Storing Capital

By Walter E. Myer

ONE is likely to succeed in the business world only in case he acquires more capital from time to time than he needs to use in his current operations. He puts this capital by; allows it to accumulate, then as opportunities appear he puts it to use. He frequently finds occasion to feed this accumulated capital into his business. By this process alone is he able to carry on extensive, complicated, and expanding operations.

The accumulation of capital is also an insurance against later insecurity. Even though one may never plan to conduct business enterprises, he must prepare to continue his existence. He must realize that the time may come when he can no longer produce. Then he will be fortunate if he has an accumulation of wealth to fall back upon. That is why it is considered so desirable for one to produce a surplus while the going is good and set aside capital for future opportunities or for rainy days.

It is not so generally realized that it is equally desirable for one to lay up intellectual capital. If one is to succeed, he should spend years in the study of a wide range of subjects. That is what he does during his student days. Then he continues to study and to learn. He reads, reflects upon, and discusses many matters which do not concern his daily work. But he is accumulating a reserve of information and of ideas.

All the while occasions are coming along which call for information and for skill one cannot acquire in a hurry. These are the times when one falls back upon the reserve he has built up. The businessman making a decision which calls for a broad understanding of economic conditions, the lawyer handling a complicated case, the physician dealing with a critical situation, all these would be utterly helpless if they had not on hand a store of knowledge and technique which has been developed through the years.



Walter E. Myer

Even though one may not be going into business or the professions, he needs a store of intellectual capital. He needs it in order to act intelligently as a citizen. No man can become sufficiently familiar with the problems his ballot deals with if he waits until election time approaches to study the issues involved. The casting of a ballot is a moment of crisis, and the typical voter meets the crisis effectively only if he is able to make his decision in the light of a knowledge and understanding which has been in preparation for months or years. To make an intelligent choice at the polls, the voter must fall back upon his accumulated reserve of information and ideas.

And so it is with the little crises with which one's private life is filled. One needs a reserve of experience upon which he may draw. If a person is to be happy and successful, he should add constantly to his reserve of capital, intellectual as well as material.



THREE LIONS

WILL THESE SPANISH TROOPS be added to western forces against aggression?

A Military Partner?

Suggestion that Spain Be Made an Ally in Western Europe's Defense System Brings Forth Sharp Debate

THE United States government, altering its former attitude toward Spain, is now seeking Spanish cooperation in the building of European defenses against Soviet Russia. Negotiations are being carried on with the Spanish government which American policy makers in the past often have labeled undemocratic and dictatorial. Military requirements are the reason for the shift in policy, President Truman says. American strategists believe that Spain can contribute strength to help check aggression in western Europe.

Not everyone thinks that the idea of a military agreement with Spain is a good one. In fact, the whole question of attitudes toward Spain is a highly controversial one; it has been so for 15 years, ever since General Francisco Franco emerged in 1936 as the leader who overthrew the Spanish republic. Today, the British and French especially are opposed to any effort to link Spain with the western defense setup; they look upon Franco as a Nazi-type dictator who was friendly to Nazi Germany in World War II. A good many Americans—no one knows how many—hold similar opinions. Other Americans praise Spain for its strongly anti-Communist stand and believe we should cooperate with Franco.

Why, in view of the controversy, are we going ahead with negotiations?

American military planners want first the right to establish naval and air bases in Spain. Such bases, along that country's Mediterranean and Atlantic coasts, would be part of the worldwide system of defenses we and our allies are building against the danger of Russian attack. U. S. strategists believe that Spanish bases would be of great military value.

Secondly, Mr. Truman's advisers are interested in the prospect of adding Spanish manpower to the defense setup. The Spanish army today numbers about 425,000 men. Nearly a million were in military service during World War II (although Spain did not fight), and Spaniards say two million could be mobilized. Such a large force could be a valuable asset in a war, according to our strategists.

A final decision on Spain's position has not been announced. The first negotiations made public were begun in late July in the Spanish capital, Madrid, by U. S. Admiral Forrest Sherman. (Sherman died unexpectedly of a heart attack while en route home.) The Sherman discussions were preliminary—to find out, Secretary of State Dean Acheson said, what Spain "might be willing and able to do." American defense specialists are expected to take up the details of planning only if the principle of Spanish-American cooperation is established.

(Concluded on page 6)

Nation Studies Flood Problem

Rampage of Midwest Streams Puts River-Control Plans Into the Spotlight

AID is flowing from distant parts of the nation to the midwestern area—including sections of Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, and Illinois—that is now cleaning up and rebuilding after July's disastrous flood. For example, while the waters of the Missouri River were still rampaging, a Massachusetts organization was making plans to gather a trainload of clothing, canned food, and household equipment for the Kansas City area. Red Cross chapters throughout America began raising a five-million-dollar emergency flood-relief fund.

The federal government, too, took measures to help the stricken region. Various U. S. loan agencies prepared to lend money to midwestern flood sufferers. Congress quickly provided a special relief fund of 25 million dollars, for use in various ways. One of the first allotments to be made from this sum went to the U. S. Department of Agriculture. That agency began purchasing feed for livestock in the disaster region.

No matter how much relief is received from the government and from private organizations, the main burden of a flood catastrophe always falls on the area that is actually hit. In the valleys of the Kansas, the Neosho, the Missouri, and other rivers which rose to record or near-record heights last month, flood water brought tragedy to thousands of families. Several lives were lost. Homes and business houses were ruined. Crops were destroyed. Livestock was swept away. In all, it is estimated, the rivers did nearly a billion dollars' worth of damage.

The flood caused a setback to the U. S. military effort, too, because work of defense plants in the stricken area

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FLOODS: "They just keep rollin' along."

Flood Control

(Concluded from page 1)

was disrupted. Moreover, large quantities of steel and other materials—badly needed by war industries—must be used for repairing midwestern railroads, bridges, and factories.

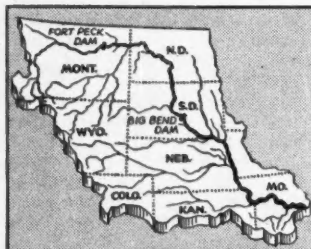
The high water served only one constructive purpose. It called attention, strongly and urgently, to a great national problem—the control of our streams and rivers. Various newspapers in the disaster region are now waging a vigorous campaign for new projects that would give protection against future floods.

"The next flood could be much worse and no one can say when it will come," declares the *Kansas City Star*. "The time to rise and take action is now. . . . Unite with action to say 'Never again!'"

Large sums of money have, of course, already been spent on flood control in the recently stricken Missouri Valley and in other sections of the United States. Since 1936 the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, which plays a major role in work along the nation's rivers, has spent well over 2 billion dollars on flood prevention. Local governments have used large amounts for the same purpose.

Dams, reservoirs, and levees have on many occasions prevented disastrous floods. At other times, as last month, rivers have risen so high that existing control facilities could not handle them.

An extensive flood-prevention and river-development program known as



THE MISSOURI RIVER

the Pick-Sloan Plan has been under way in the Missouri Valley since 1944. The project is named for Major General Lewis Pick, chief of the Army Engineers, and W. G. Sloan, a former official in the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation. As a whole, the Pick-Sloan Plan calls for the building of more than 100 big dams on the mighty Missouri River and its tributaries. After heavy rains, the water would collect in reservoirs behind these dams—instead of causing destructive floods.

Congress, though, has gone slowly in appropriating money for the Pick-Sloan dams, so only a dozen are now completed or under way. Among these are Oahe Dam, in South Dakota; Garrison Dam, in North Dakota; and the Kanapolis and Cedar Bluff Dams, in Kansas.

People who urge rapid completion of the program are pointing to the recent midwestern flood as an example of what delay can cost. Last month's disaster was caused mainly by rains in the northern Kansas area that is drained by the Kansas River, which empties into the Missouri. According to Major General Pick, the flood catastrophe could have been avoided if his plans for the stricken region had been carried out early enough.



VOLUNTEER WORKERS like these New Haven, Missouri, citizens hastily stacked sandbags to strengthen levees against flood waters

Still unbuilt, however, are several big dams and reservoirs which have been planned for the Kansas Basin under the Pick-Sloan program. It is estimated that they would cost a total of about 300 million dollars, and that completion of all Pick-Sloan construction work for the entire Missouri Valley would cost several billion. General Pick and his supporters say the money would be well spent. They declare that it costs far less to provide good flood protection than it does to suffer a big overflow.

Furthermore, it is pointed out, the Pick-Sloan project will provide benefits other than flood control. Many of its reservoirs are to furnish water for irrigation and power for the production of electricity.

Of course, the Missouri and its tributaries—the Kansas, the Platte, and others—form only one of several river basins in which the problem of flood control needs to be considered. There are the Columbia Basin in the Pacific Northwest, the great Ohio and its tributaries, the lower reaches of the Mississippi, and eastern rivers such as the Connecticut and the Potomac—to mention only a few. Work has already been done on most of our big rivers; but engineers recommend additional projects—construction of dams, levees, and so on—that would cost probably 12 billion dollars for flood control alone.

Flood control and river development are highly controversial subjects. Nobody likes floods, but there is disagreement over what specific measures should be taken to prevent them. In the Missouri Valley, for instance, the Pick-Sloan Plan has had a large number of severe critics. Some of these opponents argue as follows:

"In the Pick-Sloan Plan, great emphasis is placed upon the construction of big dams, reservoirs, and levees. Although some of these are necessary, it would be better if we paid more attention to the places where floods really start—on mountainsides and in farmers' fields. We should cultivate our land in such a way that a maximum amount of the rain which falls would be held in the soil, rather than being allowed to pour through gullies and flood the rivers. Proper care of fields and hillsides will serve two purposes. It will save the soil and will go far toward preventing destructive floods.

"Dams and reservoirs serve many useful purposes, but they also waste farmland. When a big reservoir is

constructed, thousands of fertile acres are likely to be converted into lake bottoms. Furthermore, if proper soil-conservation measures are not being taken in the surrounding area, the reservoir will soon begin to fill up with mud and will eventually become useless."

General Pick, vigorously opposing these arguments, says the recent midwestern flood has proved that his plan should be carried out. Although he supports soil-conservation measures such as the planting of trees or grass on steep slopes, he says that large numbers of dams and reservoirs are needed too.

"The biggest flood before this one was in 1844," Pick declares. "That was before a plow had been laid to the Kansas prairies. That was before the trees had been cut."

"In Burma during the war, we could predict the extent of floods when we knew how heavy rains were 100 miles away. That was in country so heavily overgrown that it took men with machetes a full day to cut their way through a mile of it."

"This year's floods [in Kansas and nearby states] were far greater than ever before. The ground was like a filled sponge. It couldn't hold any more water. It couldn't if every acre had been prepared with the latest soil-conservation plans."

"I believe in soil conservation," he continues. "I'll bet I have made more speeches for soil conservation in the Missouri Valley than anyone else. But it isn't protection against floods."

General Pick claims that the recent midwestern overflow has caused many of his former opponents to give him their support, but the Pick-Sloan proposals will undoubtedly continue to have numerous critics.

Many people propose to settle the river-control problem by establishing federal valley-development agencies patterned after the 18-year-old Tennessee Valley Authority. These organizations would have charge of harnessing our river systems for flood control, navigation, electric power production, and irrigation; and they would also promote land-conservation measures. The valleys of the Missouri and the Columbia are among those for which such agencies have been proposed.

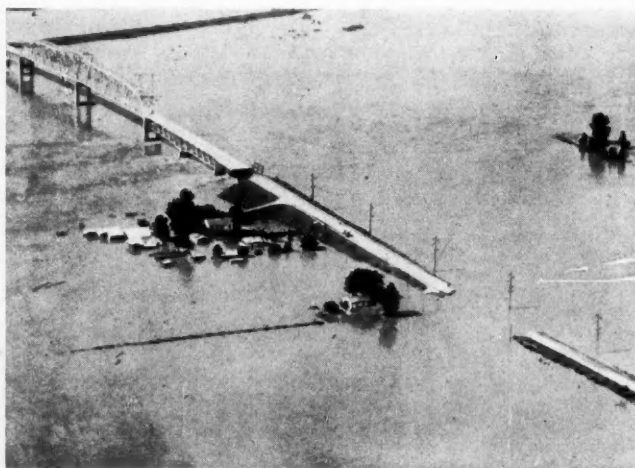
People who favor the establishment of over-all "authorities" like TVA argue as follows:

"It is best to have a single agency in charge of all the development programs that affect a river system. In too many of our valleys, we are using a piecemeal approach. There is bound to be confusion and waste when several different agencies are at work in the same area on flood control, electric power production, irrigation, and so on."

"Even in the Missouri Valley, under the Pick-Sloan Plan, there is divided control. Some work there is done by the Army Engineers, and other projects are carried out by the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation. It would be better if a central agency—a Missouri Valley Authority—were made responsible for the entire job of handling the region's water resources."

Large numbers of Americans, on the other hand, strongly oppose the establishment of new valley authorities like TVA. They believe that such organizations would permit a greater extension of federal influence than is good for the nation. Furthermore, most of these individuals are especially worried about the production and sale of electric power by federal agencies of any kind, since they feel that such activities lead us toward socialism. Opponents of the valley-authority idea recognize the need for federal flood-control projects of some sort, but they insist that other U. S. government activities along our rivers should be held to a minimum.

The whole question of how to make the best use of streams and rivers is as old as civilization itself. This problem has already caused much debate in our own country, and now the disastrous midwestern flood has focused new attention upon it.



FLOOD WATERS of the Missouri River washed out this Liberty, Missouri, highway

Weekly Digest of Fact and Opinion

(The views expressed in this column are not necessarily endorsed by THE AMERICAN OBSERVER.)

"Coming: a Russian Revolution?"
by Boris Shub, This Week.

For some time many Americans and other peoples have realized the Russian people are communism's oldest victims. They were convinced that freedom in Russia would mean peace for the world. They believed the Russians would revolt against the Kremlin if there was a real chance of success. Now they are moving from words to action. The result: a world-wide Free Russia movement which can help the Soviet Army and people overthrow the Stalin dictatorship.

In Fuessen, Germany, last January, four leading groups of Russian exiles, representing several hundred thousand former Soviet citizens, met

the merger this month of the Blacksmiths, Drop Forgers & Helpers (AFL) and the Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders & Helpers (AFL). Hard hit by the march of progress, the two venerable unions combined resources. They now make up the International Brotherhoods of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers & Helpers (AFL).

Peak strength of the blacksmiths' union came in the heyday of the old steam locomotive that needed a lot of maintenance work; rail carriers now use 25,000 fewer blacksmiths than they did a decade ago. Moreover, "technological evolution" in industry has affected the trade. Arc welding has taken forging work away from blacksmiths, for instance.

In the old days, the blacksmith was a horseshoer. Today's smithy works on copper, brass, aluminum, and steel—as well as iron. Instead of horseshoes, wagon "tires" and axles, and locomotive parts, the smith now busies himself with such things as microscopic surgical instruments and giant crankshafts weighing as much as 75 tons. Ask the average smith today to make a horseshoe, or shoe a horse, and he wouldn't know how to do it. Few horseshoers are left among the blacksmiths' 25,000 members.

"The Things that Happen on 'The Island,'" by Richard Thruelsen, Saturday Evening Post.

One of the most precious possessions of the United States is Ellis Island, the site of this country's oldest and largest immigration station. Lying close by the Statue of Liberty in New York harbor, the island has through the years welcomed a host of humanity into America.

This little spot of land started life in quiet fashion. Before the Revolution, when the Dutch were settling New York, the local Mohegan Indians called it Gull Island. The Dutch used to row over and picnic on the three-acre island. The island acquired its present name from Samuel Ellis, a New Yorker who, in 1785, offered it for sale. It actually was sold later by Ellis' heirs to the state of New York. In 1808 it was turned over to the federal government. During the war of 1812, the island was an army fort; later, the Navy used it as an ammunition depot. In 1890, the Federal Bureau of Immigration surveyed the island, and two years later opened an



AMERICAN TEACHERS in Japan are trying to educate youth in the ways of democracy

office to receive newcomers to the U. S.

During the 14 years before the outbreak of World War I, more than 13 million immigrants entered the country, and some 70 per cent of them were processed at Ellis Island. On some days the overworked staff handled as many as 5,000 bewildered potential citizens, checking their health and recording their vital statistics in a dozen tongues.

The first large-scale break in the immigration flood came in 1915 and was a direct result of transportation difficulties abroad caused by World War I. In one year, the total number of aliens admitted dropped from well over a million to 326,000. The immigration tide began to rise again in 1918, and in 1921 more than 500,000 aliens were processed on Ellis Island. After 1921, quota laws restricted immigration to approximately 150,000 a year.

With the possibility of a war on the horizon, Ellis Island has now entered a somber phase of its history. Though the routine processing of alien visitors and immigrants continues, the emphasis is placed on deportation of aliens who would give aid and comfort to a possible enemy, and on the quick turn-around of undesirable travelers who come knocking at our gates.

The deportation of security risks already in this country casts Ellis Island in a grim role. A substantial proportion of any Communist-directed fifth column in the United States would be composed of aliens who are

enjoying our hospitality without the formality of citizenship. As these elements are chiseled out of our national framework, they will be deported, or, in the case of war, interned. In either event, the first stop for many aliens will be Ellis Island.

"How Asians View the United States," by Vera Micheles Dean, The Annals of The American Academy of Political and Social Science.

Before discussing what the Asians think of the United States, we must realize that it is dangerous to generalize about Asia. The Asian nations, now that they are emerging from colonial rule by the western powers, are becoming profoundly different in their attitudes toward one another and the rest of the world.

Except in China, there are in Asia few of the kind of Communists you meet in Europe. What you do find in Asia is a profound interest in how the ideas of communism might speed the economic development of the backward areas of Asia. Why could they not learn more from us? The Asians do want to learn from the United States; but our technology is so advanced and requires such skills to operate that it is out of the range of most Asiatic nations with 80 to 85 per cent illiteracy.

Our propaganda in this respect has done us harm. It has been couched in terms of the many bathtubs we have, the refrigerators, television sets, and so on. It seldom occurs to us that Asiatics do not want all those things. We assume that our pattern of life is best suited for everybody.

We must give aid to Asia, and Asians who have thought about it are receptive to some form of supervision. They would prefer supervision by the United Nations rather than by any one country. Why? Because of colonial memories, because the Asians feel that, if the United States gives money and supervises expenditures, we might be tempted to tell them what kind of economy they should develop and how they should operate it. That, they fear, would mean the revival of colonial imperialism in a new guise.

It will take time for the Asians to learn how to deal with one another in a democratic way. What we need most of all is patience with the peoples of Asia. Meanwhile we must emphasize not our wealth but our social progress.



MANY RUSSIANS, when they can, are fleeing their Communist land

to plan a political offensive against the Kremlin by using radio, newspapers, leaflets, and other secret means to reach the Soviet Army and People. In Berlin last May, prominent anti-Communists set up the Freedom Union for German-Russian Friendship; this group includes former high Russian officers.

In New York last February, a group of American women organized the Friends of Fighters for Russian Freedom (FFRF). It is setting up friendship centers in West Germany and Austria to receive new Soviet escapees. In Frankfurt, Germany, this spring, John J. McCloy, U. S. High Commissioner in Germany, announced a liberal new policy toward Soviet escapees. Russians who escape Soviet control are promised a friendly reception under the new U. S. policy. In Washington, D. C., last May, the United States Senate unanimously adopted a resolution of friendship to the Russian people, and challenged Moscow to publish the text.

Added together, the reports prove that the Free Russia movement is here. But as against the Kremlin's worldwide propaganda and subversion machinery, there is a long way to go. The Free Russia newspapers and leaflets reaching Soviet troops are still a trickle. Inside Russia itself, real work has not yet begun. A big job lies ahead.

Technology Elbows Out a Union," Business Week.

The village blacksmith and his once-powerful union are no more. The smithy under the chestnut tree has given way to the modern filling station. That's part of the reason for



ELLIS ISLAND, in the foreground, famous American center for receiving immigrants

The Story of the Week

First Aid

The Civil Defense Administration is issuing instructions on caring for injured persons in the event of possible enemy attack. Six million copies of a booklet entitled *Emergency Action to Save Lives* are now being distributed by the federal agency, which was established to help civilians protect themselves in case another war should come.

The administration points out that in an attack, doctors or trained first-aid teams may not be able to reach many injured people for some time. By following the simple instructions in the booklet, however, you may be able to save the life of a neighbor or someone in your own family. On the other hand, the agency says, these instructions will not take the place of a complete first-aid course similar to that given by the American National Red Cross. The booklet is designed for untrained persons giving emergency aid.

Discussed in the booklet are methods for keeping an injured person from losing too much blood; helping people with bad burns; helping to prevent the dangerous condition known as "shock"; doing the right thing about broken bones; preventing suffocation; and handling injured people properly.

The booklet also describes 20 items that should be kept in a first-aid kit in your home. Many of these items—including table salt, baking soda, soap, castor oil, and razor blades—are already available in most households. Complicated equipment and hard-to-find medicines were avoided by the planners of the first-aid kit.

To obtain the booklet, you should write, phone, or visit your local Civil



GETTING READY for trouble. Trainees at New York State's new bomb rescue school at Albany practice removing a "victim" from a "bombed" building.

Defense office. Information on first-aid training courses may be secured through your school or local Red Cross chapter.

Davis Cup Matches

America's Davis Cup tennis players are off to a good start this year. The all-men's team recently won a contest with one of its toughest opponents, Japan. The U.S. tennis stars have just finished three-day matches with Mexico's players, and in the weeks to come they will meet Canada and Cuba on the courts.

If the American players can defeat



THE HELICOPTER is taking over many military tasks—landing men and equipment on the battlefield, picking up wounded, and carrying reconnaissance officers. The craft here is ready to land a gun for Marines during training maneuvers.

all of the opposing teams, they will face Europe's champions later this year. The final matches for the big trophy will be held in December between the winning team and Australia, last year's cup winner.

Among the members of the U.S. team are Art Larsen, American champion court star from San Leandro, California; Dick Savitt, winner of the world famous Wimbledon contests, from Orange, New Jersey; and Tony Trabert, 20-year-old winner of the national intercollegiate title, from Cincinnati, Ohio.

A New Nation in Africa?

A new, independent, and democratic nation may soon be set up in Africa, if England has her way. British officials want to unite three African colonies—Northern Rhodesia, Southern Rhodesia, and Nyasaland—under one government. Leaders of the three colonies are now studying England's proposal.

If present plans are adopted, the new state will be carved out of the bush, forests, lakes, and the high plains of central Africa. The proposed country is located just north of the Union of South Africa, an independent nation on the southern tip of the African continent. Like the Union of South Africa, the new country is expected to be a member of the British family of nations.

Most of the six million citizens of the three African colonies are very poor. Nevertheless, their countries have rich mineral deposits, good farmlands, valuable forests, and large quantities of fish in the numerous rivers and lakes that dot the countryside. Much of this wealth, however, is still untapped. Britain believes that the resources of the three countries can be best developed if the colonies are united into one nation under a free and democratic government. That is one of the chief reasons England supports the plan to unite the African territories.

Helicopters

The helicopter, which already has many military and civilian uses, may be given another important job to do

if a world war breaks out. The U.S. Navy is now experimenting with a plan to use the wingless craft for mass amphibious assaults against enemy bases. "Helicopters are at least 10 times as fast as landing craft now in use and safer, too," supporters of this plan declare.

In World War II, helicopters were used by the Navy for rescue work and to carry messages between ships. The Army used them to move wounded soldiers from battle areas to hospitals. In the Korean war, troops and supplies are being flown to the fighting front in the wingless planes. The craft are also effectively used to spot enemy positions and troop movements.

In civilian life, too, these planes are gaining in popularity. Men in helicopters investigate and repair electric power lines. Farmers spray crops with them. Foresters use them for fire patrol. Finally, a growing number of businessmen and other private citizens are buying helicopters for everyday transportation needs.

NATO Defenses

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization countries are making progress in uniting their defense forces. For one step, American, British, and other naval leaders have agreed, after months of debate, on the sea commands for the Atlantic and the Mediterranean fleets.

The Atlantic pact sea chiefs have reached these decisions:

1. Admiral William Fichteler, who is Commander in Chief of our Atlantic fleet, is to be supreme commander of the NATO navies, as was proposed earlier this year. His headquarters will be located in Norfolk, Virginia.

2. A Near East naval command post will be set up in the Mediterranean area, to be headed by a British admiral, but American ships in the Mediterranean are to remain under a U.S. sea leader. Greece and Turkey are to be linked with the Near East defense system, even though these two countries have not yet been admitted as Atlantic pact members.

A second agreement was reached by delegates of five NATO nations on setting up a united European

army. Meeting in Paris, the representatives of France, Italy, Belgium, West Germany, and Luxembourg agreed to weld their armed forces together into one fighting unit.

Under the plan, which is supported by General Dwight Eisenhower, supreme Allied commander in Europe, men from Germany, France, and the other nations would wear the same uniform and fight under the same flag. The plan calls for an international parliament to supervise military activities of the cooperating nations.

The agreements on the sea command and on a united European army must still be ratified by the NATO members before they can take effect.

Refugees

Prompt help is needed for 750,000 Arabs who fled as refugees from Palestine because of the war between Israel and the Arab countries two years ago. This plea was recently made by the UN Palestine Arab refugee organization, a special agency set up to find new homes and jobs for the refugees, and to provide them with temporary shelter, work, and food.

The UN agency is asking Arab nations to accept the refugees and give them decent housing and jobs within the next three years. In addition, more financial help is being sought from the United Nations.

Last year, work projects to provide employment for the refugees had to be dropped because of the high cost of supplies and because some UN members did not contribute their share of financial assistance. This year President Truman has requested Congress to appropriate 50 million dollars to aid the Arabs. Although this is twice the amount that the United Nations officially asked us to give, UN representatives say the extra money will be needed to carry out the refugee program.

In addition to the Palestine Arabs, refugees remain a serious problem in other parts of the world. Although the UN's International Refugee Organization has helped a million European displaced persons settle in new homelands, thousands of World War II refugees are still homeless. Since the IRO will soon be abolished, a United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees was appointed at the be-



ARAB REFUGEE, one of many in Syria being helped by the United Nations



THE BIG and the little of it. An engineer at the Allen B. DuMont laboratories compares a giant, 30-inch television tube with the world's smallest, one inch in diameter. "Tiny" is used in tests of TV pictures' brightness and focus.

gining of this year to finish up the organization's job and to help other refugees who have not come under the IRO's program.

Satellite Unrest

Russia is having serious trouble with her satellites. Sabotage, production slowdowns, the withholding of crops, and general unrest with Communist rule have been reported on a vast scale from the Soviet-controlled lands. In fact, resistance against Russian rule has become so strong in some areas that large numbers of Communist troops are needed to put down the uprisings, newsmen report.

Many citizens of the satellite countries are growing more and more hostile toward their Communist leaders because they strongly object to Russia's heavy demands on their bountiful harvests this year. Reports from behind the Iron Curtain indicate that Soviet officials are having great difficulty in collecting the farm crops they demand from the peasants. Feeling against Russia is said to be so high that a number of Communist officials and militiamen have already been killed when they tried to force the satellite farmers to give up their crops.

Newsmen report that acts of violence against Russia's rule are growing more numerous every day. In Bulgaria, for example, resistance groups recently burned large stocks of wheat destined for Moscow. Peasants of Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, and Czechoslovakia are said to be rising up against their harsh Soviet rulers as never before.

Financing TV

Will you have to pay money to watch television programs in your home in the future? Some observers predict that the American public will someday be called on to "foot the bill" directly for certain expensive TV performances.

As our radio and TV industry is now organized, most programs are financed by commercial advertisers who hope to sell products by giving the public free entertainment. But this method raises problems. First, some TV shows which the public might enjoy are too costly to attract sponsors. Second, in the case of sports events, the advertising sponsors often do not pay enough to make

up for the loss in gate receipts which may occur when contests are televised.

Methods of meeting these difficulties are now being carefully considered by the TV industry. One is a device known as *phonevision*, which might be installed on your TV set and connected to your telephone. Most programs would still come to you free, but others—such as a new movie or a Broadway play or an important baseball game—you could see only if you called the telephone company and requested them. A charge would be made for this, to be paid as part of your telephone bill. The money would be turned over by the telephone company to the persons promoting the program.

Other ways of financing TV shows are now being tried. This summer, for example, a few important boxing matches were televised under a special arrangement so that they could not be received on home TV sets, but only in certain movie theaters.

Some people oppose these methods of charging the public to see TV shows. They argue that when they bought their television sets, they expected to see all of the programs free of charge. Others reply that "audience financing" is a good way of letting the American people choose the entertainment they want to see.

Youth Meeting

Young men and women from more than 40 nations are today attending the first general meeting of the World Assembly of Youth in Ithaca, New York. The youth organization was founded at Brussels in 1949 to represent young people's interests on an international level, to promote voluntary youth movements, and to help young men and women prepare for citizenship.

Representing the United States at the WAY meeting is the Young Adult Council of the National Social Welfare Assembly. The Young Adult Council is composed of youths from several nation-wide organizations.

The WAY assembly now in session is scheduled to run until August 16.



CARL SANDBURG, famous American poet at 73, with his wife and their grandchildren. Winner of the 1951 Pulitzer prize for poetry, Sandburg is fond of playing the guitar and singing American folk songs.

The main topic to be discussed at the meeting is "Youth and Human Rights." The program will include an analysis of the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a document designed as a statement of what individuals are entitled to expect in the modern world.

Korean Peace Talks

During the past four weeks representatives of the United Nations and the North Korean and Chinese Communists have met in the city of Kaesong to try to arrange for a cease-fire in the Korean war. The cease-fire, if it comes about, would make it possible for top representatives of the two sides to meet and discuss the possibility of a permanent peace.

Last week, efforts were made to agree on a military line and a neutral, or "no-man's" land between the opposing forces.

An attempt was also made to end the fighting and to set up a truce team to supervise military activities in Korea. The Communists insisted that any inspection group should be limited to the neutral zone—with no rights to investigate other areas of Korea. The UN, on the other hand, felt that the truce teams should be free to watch activities in all of Korea and see to it that the peace terms are carried out.

Other issues still to be discussed at Kaesong were (1) the exchange of war prisoners, and (2) an agreement by the delegates in Korea to discuss final peace terms.

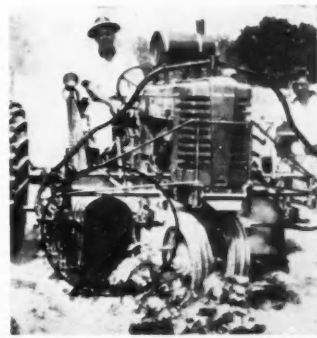
Meanwhile, these and other problems must be ironed out before a firm peace is established in Korea. When this paper reaches its readers some of the issues discussed at Kaesong may have been decided—or the talks in the devastated city may have broken down completely.

The United Nations has issued a bronze medal for all those who fought on land, sea and in the air under the UN command in Korea. The medal, which has an emblem of the world on one side, is attached to a ribbon with blue and white stripes—the UN colors.

News in Brief

Czechoslovakia has thus far refused to release William Oatis, the American newsman who was jailed last month by the Communists for "spying," and for reporting "slander and lies" about the Soviet satellite nation. Our government has made several unsuccessful attempts to gain Oatis' release, but the Communists continue to hold him in jail. Czech officials even refuse to allow other Americans to see the reporter. Meanwhile, some congressmen say the U. S. should break off diplomatic relations with Czechoslovakia unless the Communists release Oatis.

Greece and Turkey, two countries which have been seeking membership in



HE DREAMED it up. E. E. Perry of Henderson, Texas, demonstrates his boll weevil trap. Insecticide, in a tank on the hood of the tractor, is vaporized by heat from the exhaust. It is then sprayed through nozzles into the rows of cotton to kill the cotton-destroying boll weevils. Perry says he really got the idea from a dream.

the North Atlantic Treaty Organization for several months, may soon become members of the defense system. The United States strongly backs their membership in NATO. Britain, too, has recently argued that Turkey and Greece should become pact members.

Defense Mobilization Chief Charles Wilson has asked the U. S. to help put Japan's idle machines to work. Wilson believes that Japanese factories, one half of which are said to be idle, could ease the strain on U. S. industries by turning out defense and civilian goods. The nations of southeast Asia, the mobilization head declares, have enough raw materials to keep Japan's factories running at top speed.

Ever since Marshal Tito broke with Russia over three years ago, the Soviets have threatened to crush the Yugoslav government. Recently, Soviet Deputy Premier Molotov loudly warned Yugoslavia that trouble was to come to that country. He declared that the Tito government will "not last much longer" in the Balkan nation. Meanwhile, Yugoslavia continues to defy the Kremlin and is working more and more closely with the democratic nations in building up the defenses of Europe.

Alcide de Gasperi, Premier of Italy, is finding it increasingly difficult to keep his government working smoothly. The Premier's Christian Democratic Party is sharply divided over these and other issues: Unemployment, division of land among the farmers, and defense.



SPANISH FARMERS rarely employ machinery. Donkeys are used to thresh grain.

Spain's Role

(Concluded from page 1)

What does Spain expect from us? Spain wants economic help, for the country is poor. The population of more than 28 million has increased by three million since 1940; yet agricultural production last year provided only about 75 per cent of the country's food needs. Textile mills, an important part of Spanish industry, have suffered from lack of cotton in the years since World War II. Highways and railways are in poor condition.

Loans from Argentina kept the Spanish economy going in the immediate post-war years. A credit from Great Britain in 1947, loans from American banks in 1949-50, and trade agreements with Britain, France, and Germany were helpful to Spain. Congress last year allotted 62½ million dollars for economic aid to Spain. That country was not included in the Marshall Plan aid program for Europe; but Spaniards hope for large grants in the future to help reconstruct their battered economy.

Spain counts also upon American military aid. The Spanish army has only one armored division, and its tanks are old. The air force has about a thousand planes, but they are mostly out-of-date. The Spanish navy includes six cruisers, about 30 destroyers, and a few submarines, but these craft are not equipped for modern warfare. Spain hopes to be supplied with new armament to increase the power of her armed forces.

What are the arguments for dealing with Spain? The over-all argument advanced for cooperating with Franco today is that he is anti-Communist and we need all the allies we can get in deterring aggression.

Senator Paul Douglas of Illinois says: "Let us seek allies everywhere; we may disapprove of their forms of government, but we need every country in the world that is opposed to being conquered by Moscow. Let us add the army of Franco to the forces that we and our present allies have now." Senator Pat McCarran of Nevada says: "The Spanish will fight like furries, and are ready to go all the way in a military alliance with us. Spain offers something solid, a dependable extension for America's power." The two senators are Democrats; but a number of Republicans hold similar views.

Another argument on behalf of Franco is based on the fact that we

are helping Yugoslavia, because the country resists Russian rule, even though we do not approve Yugoslav Communism. We ought, the argument runs, to help Franco, who has opposed Russian communism for many years. A third argument is made by groups that have urged cooperation with Spain all along. They believe military cooperation now is a step in the right direction.

What are the arguments against dealing with Spain? Those opposed to cooperation with Generalissimo Franco argue chiefly on military and political grounds.

From a purely military viewpoint, some European (and possibly American) strategists say that equipping the Spanish army would cost more than it is worth in defensive power. Politically, Britain and France protest any step to bring Franco, whom they distrust as a dictator, into association with free nations for the defense of Europe. (Both France and Britain, though, carry on extensive trade with Spain.)

There is fear among the British and French, and probably among other Europeans, too, that our negotiations mean (1) that aid to Spain will reduce the amount of help countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization will receive (Secretary of State Acheson says NATO countries will still have priority); and (2) that, if war with Russia comes in Europe, we would

plan only to hold a line behind the Spanish Pyrenees mountains (Secretary Acheson insists that the U. S. is determined to defend all of western Europe if it is attacked).

Commenting on the political significance of cooperation with Spain, the *Christian Science Monitor* says: "Plans to enlist one tyranny to oppose another can find no support. Even in any long-range weighing of world political forces, the alignment of American democracy with dictatorship looks like a liability."

The question of helping Franco is one each person answers for himself. There are strong arguments on both sides.

How did the controversial Franco gain power? Spain was, until 1931, a monarchy. In that year, King Alfonso was forced to flee into exile and a republic was set up. In July 1936, a group of military men, dissatisfied with the republic's progress, started a revolution. Franco became their leader.

Britain, the United States, and other big democratic nations followed a policy of nonintervention, "hands off," during the conflict. Communist Russia helped the republic in the hope that Spanish Communists could turn Spain into a Communist state. Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy supplied Franco with planes and troops. In the end Franco and his followers won the war and set up the government which the generalissimo now heads.

Franco controls the country through his Falangist Party and through his cabinet. The cabinet includes Falangists as well as monarchists who favor the return of a king. There is a parliament, the *Cortes*, which has very limited legislative power.

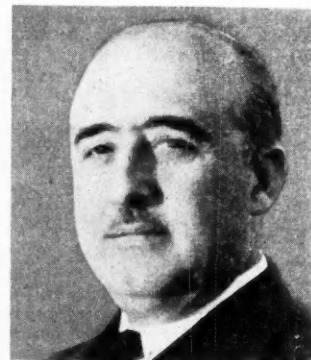
What was Franco's position during World War II? Indebted to Germany and Italy for the help they had given him during the Spanish civil war, Franco kept up a show of support for the Fascist-Nazi-Axis forces and made speeches predicting German victory. At the same time, though, he did not enter the conflict against the western allies, and he cooperated with them more and more as the war drew to an end.

To aid the German-Italian faction, Franco permitted about 20,000 Spaniards to work in German factories; he sent about 17,000 men to fight with

the Nazis on the eastern front against Russia; and he permitted the Germans to operate an extensive anti-allied espionage center in Spain.

To aid the western allies, the generalissimo allowed the western nations to keep intelligence agents in Spain; he let about 25,000 volunteers, mostly French, go through Spain (though their path was not always easy) to reach allied fronts in North Africa; and he gradually cut down sales of valuable tungsten ore (wolfram) to Germany until deliveries were halted completely in 1944.

Winston Churchill, Britain's wartime Prime Minister, has said that Franco, by his "duplicité" toward his German and Italian friends, kept Spain out of the war "to the inestimable advantage of Britain." Nazi leader Adolf Hitler apparently recognized that Franco would never really help the Axis. In December 1940,



GENERALISSIMO Francisco Franco

Hitler wrote to Fascist Premier Mussolini of Italy that "Spain refuses to collaborate in the war."

What actions were taken in regard to Spain after World War II? Prime Minister Churchill wrote Franco in 1945 that Britain could not overlook Spain's past record of pro-Nazism; President Franklin Roosevelt termed the Spanish regime "naturally the subject of distrust." Moved by such feelings, the United Nations barred Spain from UN membership. In 1946, the UN voted that the allied countries should withdraw their ambassadors from Spain after a UN committee found that "the Franco regime is a Fascist regime." (The Spanish government declared officially that it was not Fascist and denied that it failed to respect individual liberties of its citizens.)

The diplomatic boycott was removed by the UN in 1950, and we and other nations now have ambassadors back in Spain. The UN in 1950 also permitted Spain to join some of its organizations, such as the Food and Agricultural Organization. Spain is not yet, however, entitled to full UN membership.

Has Franco taken any steps to alter his government? As negotiations began with us on military cooperation, Franco reorganized his cabinet. He removed some of the more extremist members of his Falangist Party, and he added several monarchists to the cabinet. Franco let it be known, too, that he intended to restore the monarchy (which might have a moderating influence in his government). There has been talk of a monarchy for Spain, however, ever since the revolution began; and, with or without a king, it seems unlikely that Franco will give up his position as head of government.



SPAIN is strategically located in Europe's Mediterranean Sea area

Newsmaker

THE question of whether 38-year-old Don Juan, the Count of Barcelona, is to become king of Spain is in the news again.

Don Juan's father was Alfonso XIII who reigned as king of Spain for 45 years. Alfonso was forced to flee Spain in 1931, when a republic was set up in his country. He died in Rome in 1941, after naming his son as his successor.

Even before his father died, Don Juan was considered a future king by many Spaniards. In 1936, during the Spanish civil war, he left his home in France and went to Spain to enlist with the armies of General Francisco Franco. Franco declined Don Juan's services and, it is reported, told the young man he must prepare for more important duties. This was the first indication that Franco was thinking of making Don Juan king.

When Alfonso died in 1941, the son inherited a large share of family properties. These included holdings in Spain. Franco arranged that titles to the properties be transferred promptly. This attention was taken as another sign that the future kingship of Don Juan was assured.

In 1943, difficulties arose. At that time, Don Juan issued a statement declaring that Franco was a "usurper of power" who was delaying a restoration of the monarchy. Toward the end of World War II, reports cropped up that harmony had been restored and that Don Juan soon would be named king. Nothing happened, though.

In 1947, Spanish voters adopted a law making Franco chief of state for life, but provision was included for the naming of a king at some unspecified future date. In 1948, Don Juan visited Franco aboard the Spanish general's yacht. They reached an agreement to put Don Juan's son Juan Carlos, now 13, in school in Spain. This has led to reports, still current, that Juan Carlos, rather than Don Juan, will be named king.

Don Juan has not lived in Spain since his father left the throne. During World War II, he lived most of the time in Switzerland with his wife, two sons, and two daughters. In recent years, he has made his home in Portugal. His aides say he is a keen student of Spain's economic and social problems and would like to improve conditions—if he is made king.



DON JUAN—a king to be?



THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE is "big business." It turns out hundreds of pamphlets, booklets, texts of speeches, and reports for federal departments.

SERVING THE NATION

Government Printing Office

(This is the eleventh in a series of special features about government agencies which serve the nation in unusual ways.)

UNCLE Sam owns and operates the world's largest printing plant. It is the Government Printing Office (GPO), an agency controlled directly by Congress.

Since our country gained its independence, there have been official U. S. government reports, laws, hearings, orders, and other documents that had to be printed. At first, this printing was done by private firms. In 1860, however, Congress established the GPO. Since then, this agency has done most of the printing for the legislative and executive branches of the federal government. The Government Printing Office now publishes the opinions of the U. S. Supreme Court, as well.

The variety and quantity of material produced at the GPO has grown as the government's operations have become bigger and more complex. In addition to official documents, the office nowadays publishes pamphlets on such topics as preserving fruit, building homes, and flying airplanes. It prints volumes of statistics on all kinds of businesses, occupations, and farming activities.

Government forms, blanks, letterheads, envelopes, and similar supplies are also produced at the GPO. One of its biggest "customers" is the Post Office Department, for whom the GPO prints billions of postal cards each year. (Postage stamps, however, as well as paper money and other valuable items, are made at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.)

One of the most interesting of the GPO's publications is the daily *Congressional Record*. Among other things, the *Record* contains a word-for-word account of all speeches and statements made on the floors of Congress. It ranges in length from a few pages to more than 400 pages a day.

As soon as the official reporting clerks have recorded each day's Congressional activities, their notes are rushed from the Capitol to the GPO. There the material is rapidly checked, set into type on speedy linotype machines, and printed. The *Record's* pages are then stitched together and trimmed.

The GPO does most of this work on the *Congressional Record* at night. By morning, copies of the *Record*, covering the previous day's developments, have been delivered to every member of Congress in Washington; and thousands of copies are in the mail, on their way to subscribers throughout the nation.

Because the GPO uses such huge quantities of inks and other printing supplies, it manufactures many of these materials itself. It buys its paper—190 million pounds a year—from commercial paper mills, however.

The office also engages in research to test new methods and devices used in publishing. For example, it recently tested nylon sewing thread to determine whether that type of thread is better than cotton for binding books.

A few fortunate young men employed at the GPO attend a special school to learn all phases of the printing trade. The office maintains its own Apprentice School, where selected employees prepare for careers as craftsmen and future supervisors. Classes are held on a part-time basis in such technical fields as bookbinding and printing chemistry. In addition, the school gives courses in related subjects like the history of printing, printing appreciation, and applied English.

The GPO has thousands of government publications for sale. Many of them cost very little but contain a great deal of useful and interesting information. If you are in Washington, you will probably enjoy browsing at the GPO's new bookstore, where Uncle Sam's most popular books and pamphlets are displayed.

You may also order these publications by mail. To do this, you should write the GPO for free price lists of publications in those fields that interest you. From these lists you can select the items you want to buy. Here are a few examples of the topics covered by price lists: occupations; foods and cooking; American history; education; political science; maps; health; homes and housekeeping; foreign relations of the U. S.; and animal industry (farm animals).

Address your requests for the price lists to: Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

Study Guide

Flood Control

1. Describe some measures that have been taken by the federal government, and by private groups, to provide relief for the flood-stricken Midwest.
2. In what ways did the July floods damage our nation's defense effort?
3. Briefly describe the Pick-Sloan Plan. How nearly completed is the work that is proposed under this plan?
4. What criticism do many people make concerning the Pick-Sloan method of controlling floods?
5. How do Major General Lewis Pick and his supporters answer this criticism?
6. Give arguments that are used by people who feel that the United States should establish some new valley-development agencies, patterned after the Tennessee Valley Authority.
7. What arguments are presented by the opponents of such agencies?

Discussion

1. Do you favor rapid completion of the construction work that is proposed under the Pick-Sloan program? Why or why not?
2. Do you or do you not favor the establishment of new agencies—for the Missouri Valley and elsewhere—patterned after the Tennessee Valley Authority? Explain your position.

Spain

1. What is the United States seeking in negotiations with Spain?
2. Why do American military planners think an agreement with Spain is desirable?
3. List the benefits that might result for Spain if an agreement is concluded.
4. Give the arguments for and against cooperation with Spain.
5. Tell how General Francisco Franco became head of the Spanish government and a bit about what his government is like.
6. What was Franco's position during World War II, and what did he do for Nazi Germany and Italy during the conflict? What did he do for the allies?
7. What actions did the United Nations take against Spain after the war, and how have those steps been altered since?
8. What has Franco done in the way of reorganizing his government?

Discussion

1. Do you believe the United States should enter into a military agreement with Spain? Give your arguments for or against the agreement.
2. Do you approve or disapprove of the steps the UN took against Spain after World War II? Why?

Miscellaneous

1. What important steps were recently taken to strengthen the sea and land defenses of the Atlantic allies?
2. Describe briefly the proposed new African nation.
3. How are helicopters being used by the armed forces and civilians?
4. What is being done to help refugees in the Middle East and Europe? Are further steps necessary?
5. For what purposes was the World Assembly of Youth established?
6. Name some duties of the Government Printing Office.
7. Who might become the ruler of Spain if the monarchy were restored?
8. What are some of the causes of discontent among the Russian people?
9. Sketch briefly the progress made at the cease-fire talks in Kaesong.

Pronunciations

Falangist—fay-lan'jist
 Neosho—nē-ō'-shō
 Oahe—wah-he
 Fuessen—few-sēn
 Don Juan—dōn hwahn
 Juan Carlos—hwahn cahrlōs

Background for Today's News

Russia—Land of the Iron Curtain

It seems strange, on the face of it, that the world's biggest country is a hermit land. Though Russia sprawls over much of Europe and Asia, she is largely cut off from other nations. To understand why she has hidden behind her iron curtain and how she manages to keep it in place, we need a few basic facts about her land and people.

LAND. Russia is the largest portion of the earth's surface that is ruled by a single government. She covers eight and a half million square miles, an area almost three times that of the United States.

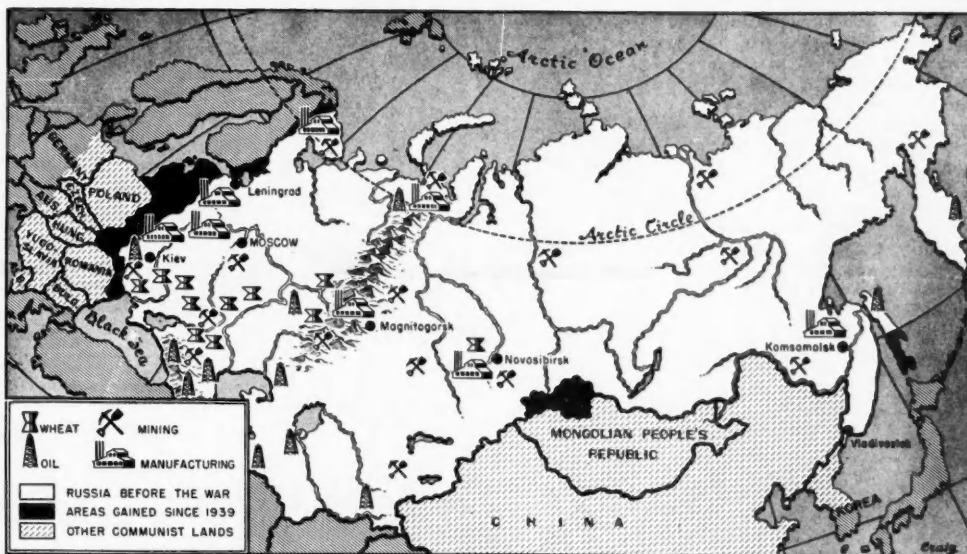
Nature is partly responsible for cutting this huge country off from the rest of the world. The icebound sea-coasts of the north, like the broad deserts and towering mountains of the south, have tended to wall the people in.

There is another way, too, in which Nature has been unkind to the Russians. She has made at least half of the country unsuitable for farming. The north is too cold, and the soil there is not very fertile. Much of the south is too dry.

In the middle section, a great deal of the soil is poor. The rich wheat belt, which produces good crops, is quite broad in the west but tapers to a narrow strip in the east.

Russia claims she has a quarter more farmland than the United States. But she has a third more people to feed. And much land that is cultivated in Russia would be considered too poor for crops over here.

RESOURCES. In the matter of resources, Nature has been more generous to the Russians. Their country ranks with the United States in the variety and quantity of its minerals. Russia has almost every natural resource a nation needs. But at present



RUSSIA, home of communism, is a gigantic land that sweeps across Europe and Asia

Until recently the large majority of Russians were peasants who made their homes in rural villages. But today it seems likely that the population is divided about equally between cities and the country.

Visitors agree that the Russians are likable and friendly. They have a tremendous curiosity about the world outside. Their government, however, tries to keep them from learning much about other lands.

Life is drab for the average Russian. He is poorly fed, poorly clothed, and poorly housed. Though he may not know that he is worse off than most Europeans, he feels that he has good reason to be dissatisfied with his lot.

Discontent is increased by the relative comfort and even luxury in which government officials live. Rumors of serious unrest in Russia cannot always be credited, but we know that the government employs over two million police to keep the people in order.

Millions of Russians—no one knows how many—are working at forced labor because they were rash enough to show their dissatisfaction with the Communist system. Multitudes who did the same thing have died in prison camps or been shot by the secret police. It is easy to see why thousands of Russians have risked death at the border to escape from their own country.

GOVERNMENT. Though Russia pretends to be a democracy, it is really a dictatorship which maintains itself through terror. In theory, all power rests with an elected body called the Supreme Soviet. But this body meets very seldom and then only to give its full approval to everything that has been done by the Council of Ministers.

The Council is a cabinet headed by the Premier, Joseph Stalin. He and the other leaders of the Communist Party (12 men, all told) make every important decision and run the big executive departments. The Communist leaders are chosen by Stalin. He, therefore, may justly be called the dictator of Russia.

Since Russia is a Communist country (Socialist is the adjective used there), practically all business is run

by the state. Agriculture, manufacturing, commerce, mining, and transportation are managed by an army of government officials and controlled from Moscow.

AGRICULTURE. Some Russian peasants work for wages on government-owned farms. Most, however, work on collective farms. The government buys the produce of collective farms, paying prices set by itself—prices much lower than those the produce would bring in a free market. The net income from each collective farm is divided among the workers.

Because each farm worker gets so little, the peasants are usually allowed to cultivate garden plots in their spare time. What they raise on these plots they may either use or sell.

Wheat and other grains are Russia's leading crops. Sugar beets, cotton, and flax are important, too.

INDUSTRY. As we said previously, mining and manufacturing are run by the government. Both suffered greatly from the destruction wrought by World War II. But Russia claims that she is now producing far more goods than she did just before the war. Even if this is true, we have reason to believe that her total output is less than half the size of ours.

This belief offers one explanation for the fact that the Russian people can't get nearly all the goods they need. Another explanation is to be found in the amount of war equipment being turned out. The nation's industry is producing guns and tanks rather than stoves and furniture.

TRANSPORTATION. Russia's vast size puts a heavy burden on her system of transportation, which is still a weak one. Though Russia is so much larger than the United States, she has only a third as much railway mileage and a fifth as many roads.

DEFENSE. Estimates of Russia's armed strength vary greatly. Her army totals perhaps four million men and seems to be well equipped. Her air force is believed to be fairly modern and is rapidly expanding. As for the navy, it hasn't many surface ships, but it is strong in late-model submarines.

HISTORY. Russia began as a collection of states north of the Black Sea. Trade with Constantinople (now Istanbul, Turkey) brought these states the goods and customs of Greek and Roman civilization, as well as Greek Catholic Christianity.

In the 13th century the Russian states were conquered by Mongols from eastern Asia. Two hundred years later the state of Muscovy or Moscow threw off the Mongol yoke and began taking over her neighbors. In this way the foundations of Russia were laid.

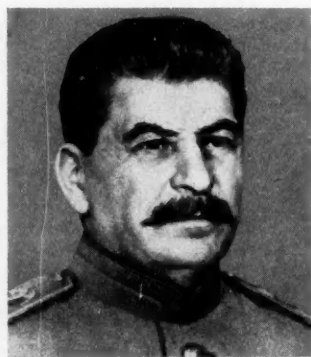
Under her emperors or czars, Russia continued to grow at the expense of neighboring countries. In order to gain seaports for trade, she pushed west to the Baltic and south to the Black Sea—then east to the distant coast of Asia. But to this day her seaport problem is still unsolved. In northern harbors, winter ice causes trouble. The Black Sea ports can be bottled up by Turkey whenever that country decides to close the straits leading to the Mediterranean.

In the spring of 1917, while Russia was fighting Germany and Austria, a revolution forced the Czar to give up his throne. But the republic that was then established lasted only until autumn, when a second revolution put the Communists in power.

Though the Communists changed many things in Russia, the idea of expansion remained. As the accompanying map shows, the Soviet Union has annexed a great deal of territory in recent years. It has gained still more by setting up puppet Communist governments in nearby countries.

Russia's expansionist policy has made her the enemy of nearly all the rest of the world. Her government realizes this, but seems unwilling to change its ways.

So the Communist dictatorship has pulled an iron curtain down around the country and its satellites. Stalin wants to keep both foreign spies and foreign ideas out of Russia. Spies would be dangerous if war should come. Foreign ideas would fan the discontent of the Russian people in peacetime.



DICTATOR JOSEPH STALIN

she lags far behind the United States in making use of Nature's gifts.

One trouble is that her minerals are so widely separated. Coal, iron, and oil have to be hauled long distances to the places where they are used. The same is true of timber.

PEOPLE. Russia's population has now passed the 200-million mark. She has more than 150 different kinds of people within her borders, and welding them into a united country has proved a difficult task. Fortunately for her, nearly two thirds of the population is Great Russian.

The people live chiefly in European Russia, most of them in the middle and southern parts of that section.